coal was the main consideration taken into account in the present grading system. The consumption profile of coal has undergone vast changes over the last two decades. Earlier, the design of combustion equipment was such that only coals with high heat value could be utilised. With the emergence of Pulverised Firing of coal particularly in the thermal power station boilers it has become possible to utilise coals with high ash content with high thermal efficiency. The modern coal combustion equipment particularly the power station boilers can handle coals with high ash content without any serious problem. The environmental pollution mainly arises from the 'fly ash' produced when the coal is burnt. This problem can be considerably reduced by using beneficiated coal.

(c) High ash content coals as well as washery rejects are reported to be utilised in fluidised bed combustion boilers for power generation in countries like France, Germany, USA etc.

Grading or pricing of coal

759. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 296 given in the Rajya Sabha on 6th December, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations made by BICP have been examined and due action taken thereon;

(b) what are the details of the action taken on the recommendations;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) what are the details regarding Members of this Committee;

(e) whether a retired C and M D of a subsidiary of Coal India Ltd. serving or a retired Director (Finance) or any other official of Coal India were members of the said Committee; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) The interim recommendations of Bureau of Industrial Cost and Prices (BICP) regarding coal industry have been examined in the Ministry. Since most of the recommendations relate to coal prices, which is a sensitive issue, the changes if any can be made public only by issue of Gazette Notifications.

(d) to (f) According to BICP, they had not appointed any committee for conducting their study on coal industry. However, they did engage Shri C. S. Jha Ex-Chairman, Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and M/s. Alpha Consultants represented by Shri B. Swaminathan Ex-Director (Finance), Coal India Ltd. as consultants to work for specific assignments connected with their report. In addition, assistance of some officers of Coal India Ltd. was also taken for collection and analysing various technical and costing details for the study.

कोयला खान भविष्य निधि संगठन का कार्य निष्पादन

760. **मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आजमी :** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कोयला खान भविष्य निधि और विविध प्रावधान अधिनियम, 1948 का प्रशासन और कोयला खान भविष्य निधि संगठन का कार्यान्वयन और निष्पादन कार्य संतोषजनक ढंग से नहीं हो रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;